

**PROPOSAL REVIEW PANEL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY  
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

**Advisory Committee Charter**

- 1. Committee's Official Designation** Proposal Review Panel for Environmental Biology (the Committee) #10744
- 2. Authority** This committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App., and the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §1861 et. seq.
- 3. Objective and Scope of Activities** To advise the National Science Foundation (NSF) on the merit of proposals requesting financial support of research and research-related activities. The Committee will review proposals submitted to NSF under the purview of the Division of Environmental Biology (DEB).
- 4. Description of Duties** The Committee will review and evaluate proposals, which may include site visits, and provide written recommendations on proposals as part of the selection process for awards. The Committee may evaluate and provide advice on the progress of awarded proposals.
- 5. Official to Whom the Committee Reports** The Committee reports to the Division Director of Environmental Biology.
- 6. Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support** The National Science Foundation will provide all operating and staff support costs for the Committee.
- 7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years** The estimated annual operating cost of this committee is about \$1,590,000 which includes about \$336,000 in staff support cost. Staff support is approximately 2.7 person-year.
- 8. Designated Federal Officer** A full-time or permanent part-time NSF employee will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call the committee meetings, prepare and approve meeting agendas, attend committee meetings, and adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest. The Division Director of DEB will serve as DFO. The alternate DFO is the program manager, director, or official running the review panel meeting or managing the site visit.
- 9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings** There will be approximately thirty meetings a year.
- 10. Duration** It is expected that the Committee will continue indefinitely with renewals of the charter every two years as required under FACA.
- 11. Termination** The Committee is subject to biennial review and will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless the charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of FACA.

**12. Membership and Designation** Membership consists of approximately 500 people. The number of these members attending each meeting is determined by the subject and number of proposals to be reviewed. Members are selected to achieve a balance of viewpoints and expertise in scientific areas and types of institutions encompassed by DEB activities. To the extent practicable, every effort is made to achieve a diverse membership that includes individuals from underrepresented groups and different geographic regions.

It is anticipated that members will be comprised of Special Government Employees (SGE) and Regular Government Employees (RGE).

**13. Recordkeeping** The records of the Committee shall be handled according to section 2, General Records Schedule 26 and applicable agency records disposition schedule.

**14. Certification** The Committee is determined to be necessary and in the public interest.



Bette Loiselle  
Division Director  
Division of Environmental Biology



Joann P. Roskoski  
Acting Assistant Director  
Directorate for Biological Sciences

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